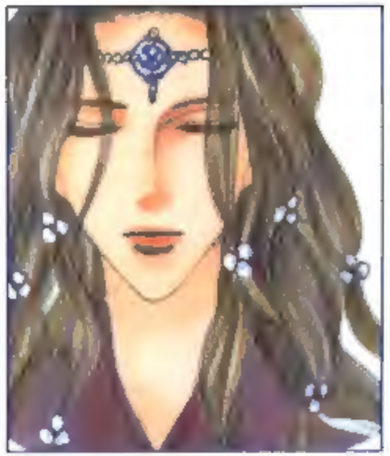

It really is quite difficult to draw cute girls...Drawing pretty men is hard too, but despite that, once I start drawing it's a lot of fun. I hope that one day, I will be able to draw girls that make readers cry "How cute!" or men that make them ask "Wow, what does this person do? (as a compliment)" It'd be great if the characters had intense personalities as well. (Such high hurdles...)

ICHIRACI TOKUMA SPECIAL COMICS

SILVER DIAMOND

The Fool

12

杉浦志保

ICHIRACI TOKUMA SPECIAL COMICS

SILVER DIAMOND 12

杉浦志保 SUGIURA SHIHO

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SILVER DIAMOND 12

ICHIRACI Comics

[Story]

In order to protect the other world, Rakan makes the decision to use his status as the Sanome Prince, spreading the green and bringing hope to all. In the palace, the power play between Kinrei and the Prince leads to a shocking upheaval. Between the two sides, what direction will the continually growing world head towards? A new side story, "Battle," is included. Volume 12 is not to be missed!!

SILVER DIAMOND 12

SHIHO SUGIURA

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SILVER DIAMOND
シルバーダイヤモンド

Alternate world - Capital

Most powerful man in the alternate world. Can foretell the future. Ayame prince.

Will kill him no matter what.

千銀千舟 Chigusa Senroh

Man of the alternate world with an immortal body. He needs the power of the Sanome for his battle.

Important to him

Feels that they have the same destiny

The same face. Brothers?

沢羅貫 Rakan Sawa

Kind-hearted High School boy with a garden that looks like a jungle. He has the power of the Sanome to grow plants and he looks like the prince of the alternate world.

Lord and vassal?

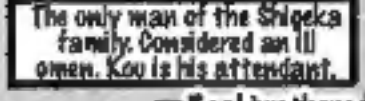
Fighting against

金弦金麟 Kinrei Kingen

The only one close to the prince.

虹 Kōbi

Like big brother (sister?!) and little brother



Narushige Shigeka

重華成重

The only man of the Shigeka family. Considered an ill omen. Kou is his attendant.

Helping them

Mother & daughter

Sae

Has a number name.

Shigeka family

Shigeyuki

Head of the Shigeka family.

Valued friends

Valued friends

Toki Tohno

幻斗一

Was used by the prince. Number child who is regarded as useless.

Real brothers

Kazuhi

主

Acts as leader.

Akechi

秋市

Has a number name.

Friends

Alternate world Frontier

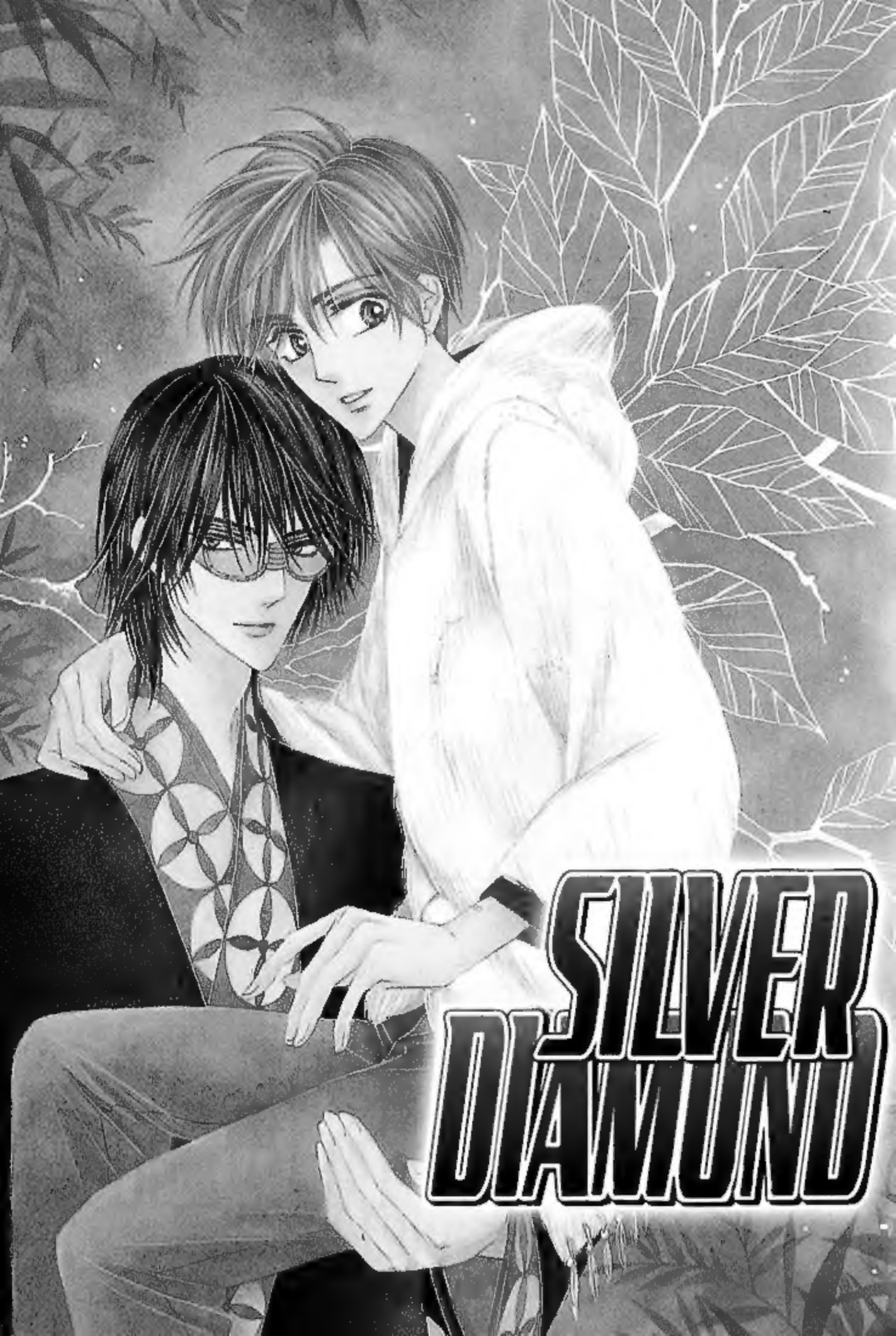
Ex-frontier guards. Now, the Sanome Prince's guards.

Sanome: Someone who has the ability to grow plants at will.
Ayame: Someone who destroys plants and turns soil into sand.

ONE DAY A MAN NAMED CHIGUSA FALLS IN RAKAN'S GARDEN FROM ANOTHER WORLD, AND STARTS TO CALL RAKAN, A BOY WHO CAN GROW PLANTS AT WILL, A "SANOME." RAKAN ALSO BEFRIENDS NARUSHIGE, KOU, AND TOUJI, A KILLER SENT BY KINREI, AFTER THEY TOO FALL INTO HIS WORLD. FEELING DEEPLY ATTACHED TO THE ALTERNATE WORLD, HE DECIDES TO GO THERE. ◆ AS RAKAN GOES ON A JOURNEY TO TURN THE OTHER WORLD GREEN, THE PRINCE MAKES A NEW PROPHECY AT THE CAPITAL, WHICH STRIKES RAKAN AND HIS FRIENDS. ◆ AFTER HE MAKES SURE THAT KAZUHI AND REST WHO HAD FALLEN INTO A CRACK IN THE GROUND, ARE UNHARMED, RAKAN PROMISES TO REUNITE WITH THEM, AND CONTINUES ON HIS JOURNEY. ◆ IN THE PALACE, THE PRINCE AWAKENS, AND THE SANOME FROM RAKAN'S GARDEN ALSO MAKES AN APPEARANCE. BETWEEN THE TWO PRINCES, THE TWO SANOMES, AND THE TWO RULERS, THE WORLD GRADUALLY CHANGES. KINREI IMPRISONS THE AYAME PRINCE, SENDING OUT ARTIFICIAL CYCLONES CALLED "WIND DRAGONS." RAKAN IMMEDIATELY DISPATCHES LETTERS TO EVERY VILLAGE, WITH SEEDS INCLUDED, TO HELP THEM AVOID THE WIND DRAGON'S ATTACK. ◆ THE NAME OF "SAWA RAKAN" IS GRADUALLY SPREAD AMONG THE PEOPLE...

FOR DETAILS PLEASE READ VOLUMES 1-11!

STORY&CASTS


SILVER
DIAMOND

Treats after a meal
"The fluttering gown draws up a whirlwind,"
"And tender leaves play among the wind as though calling upon spring."
"From the night mist,"
"The fairy maiden glides down."
..."FAIRY MAIDEN"?

Sprouting Wings

The fool

Hello everyone! This is the 11th volume, and Kinrei's on the cover.
No matter what, I wanted to choose "The Fool" as the title, but if I used that,
and then drew Chigusa and Rakan on the cover, that'd be a bit...
So I just drew Kinrei instead...
Sorry, bad guy...
Even though the new extra this time isn't a 4-koma...the feeling
isn't very different...Every time I draw this kind of thing,
I feel as if the characters get dumber and dumber (it's all my fault),
I'm not ruining them, am I? Or is it already too late...

I wanted to do a 4-koma every single time. but. it seems I'm getting farther and farther away from my goal...

BUMP

HEY, ARE THERE REALLY "FAIRY MAIDENS"?

DO THEY FLY UP IN THE SKY?

IT'S JUST A FAIRY TALE.

A FAIRY TALE?

THAT MEANS SOMEONE MADE UP THE STORY.

With their imagination.

Hmm

AH, THEN WHAT ABOUT THIS?

WHAT IS A "TREE... SPIRIT"?

IT'S MORE LIKE IT'S THE "TREE'S HEART" THAT'S TAKEN ON A HUMAN-LIKE FORM.

Right..?

THAT SOUNDS ABOUT RIGHT.

OH, IT'S NOT THE GHOST OF A TREE...

Munch

REALLY?

YES.

THAT WAS JUST A MADE UP TALE, TOUJI.

EH? TREES HAVE "HEARTS" LIKE HUMANS?!

IT ISN'T STRANGE FOR THEM TO HAVE HEARTS.

AFTER ALL,

PLANTS ARE LIVING CREATURES TOO.

EH?

THEY CAN LIVE EVEN WITHOUT MOVING?

YUP.

Here, open your mouth.

AH, YES,

TREES ARE ALSO ABLE TO GROW.

They're definitely alive.

A vast, dull, and ignorant feeling...

UH...

BUT YOU CAN FEEL THE KINDNESS THAT TREES EMANATE.

HOWEVER,

NOT TO THE POINT WHERE THEY HAVE FEELINGS.

BUT,

AH, YES...

Ever since the start

YOU TALK TO YOUR PLANTS OFTEN, RIGHT?

OH YES, RAKAN,

THIS KIND OF FEELING IS QUITE COMMON.

WHERE I COME FROM,

REGARD-LESS OF WHETHER PLANTS ACTUALLY HAVE "HEARTS" OR NOT,

IS IT VERY ABNORMAL?

SPEAKING TO PLANTS...

EH? DON'T TELL ME YOU THINK IT'S NORMAL?!

OH

I'M SURE MANY PEOPLE TALK TO THEIR PLANTS.

SO WHEN WATERING THEM,

PEOPLE PLANT FLOWERS AS A HOBBY OR OUT OF INTEREST,

THAT'S RIGHT,

EVER SINCE THEY WERE BORN,

PLANTS WEREN'T SOMETHING THEY SAW EVERY DAY.

SHOULD I CALL IT A CULTURAL DIFFER-ENCE,

OR SOMETHING CAUSED BY THE DIFFERENT ENVIRON-MENT?

WE DON'T SEE PLANTS THAT OFTEN,

SO OUR FEELINGS PROBABLY DIFFER FROM RAKAN'S.

WELL, WHEN WE THINK ABOUT IT,

Plant flowers just for fun? Weird...

AH, THAT'S TRUE...

VERY LITTLE OF IT IS PUBLIC,

AND THE REST IS UNDER-GROUND.

UM... YES, THERE ARE, BUT,

THERE ARE PLANTS, RIGHT?

Even just a few?

AH, BUT IN THE CAPITAL ...

WHERE I CAME FROM, FORESTS OR MOUNTAIN RANGES WERE COMMON SIGHTS...

.....

MONO-POLIZED?

THE PLANTS

ARE THEY BEING MONOPOLIZED BY THE KINGEN CLAN?

EH, UNDER-GROUND?

THERE ARE EMPTY CAVITIES IN THE GROUND BENEATH THE PALACE.

THE PLANTS MIGHT BE GROWN THERE TO STOP THEM FROM SPREADING.

Delicious!

Delicious!

AH, ALL THE PLANTS AND FOODSTUFF IN THE KINGDOM

ARE MANAGED BY THE "MANASAKI" AND "KINGEN" CLANS,

AND THEN DISTRIBUTED TO THE REST OF THE KINGDOM.

SO THERE IS SUCH A SYSTEM, HUH.

AH. . IT JUST ISN'T POSSIBLE,

NO MATTER IF FORCE OR COERCION IS USED,

MARRYING OFF YOUR CLAN'S WOMEN TO THE KINGEN CLAN, OR VICE VERSA...

Using this kind of method.

SINCE,

THOSE OF THE KINGEN CLAN MARRY ONLY AMONG THEMSELVES.

DOESN'T ANYONE PROTEST AGAINST IT?

THIS KIND OF MONO-POLIZATION ...

OR TRY TO REPLACE THE KINGEN?

"REPLACE"?

SO THOSE BORN "KINGEN" WILL REMAIN "KINGEN" FOREVER.

THEY HAVE ALWAYS MADE MALE AND FEMALE RELATIVES MARRY ONE ANOTHER,

SO THEY DO NOT WANT TO DILUTE THEIR BLOOD LINE.

BECAUSE,

THEY CARRY THE BLOOD OF THE REPRESEN-TATIVES OF GOD,

...EH?

Indeed!

ANYWAY, THE SO-CALLED KINGEN CLAN,

YOU UNDERSTAND VERY WELL, RAKAN.

NOW CONSISTS OF ONLY FOUR TO FIVE PEOPLE.

According to hereditary studies,

IF THEY GO ON LIKE THAT, THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN WILL KEEP FALLING, WON'T IT...

BUT,

SINCE OUTSIDERS ARE REJECTED.

NO ONE CAN MARRY OUTSIDE THE KINGEN CLAN.

NO MATTER WHICH GENDER YOU ARE,

.....

Only marrying close relatives?

SO THE ONLY "SUCCESOR" NOW IS KINRE.

MANAGE THE RESOURCES WE MENTIONED EARLIER.

HIS UNCLE, ALONG WITH THE OTHER MALE MEMBERS,

SO FEW!

KINREI'S FATHER IS ILL, AND NO LONGER MAKES PUBLIC APPEARANCES.

YES,

I THINK THEY'LL PROBABLY START TO CONSIDER LETTING OUTSIDERS MARRY IN...

THEN DOES THAT MEAN KINREI WILL BE THE LAST KINGEN?

SINCE THERE ARE NO MORE WOMEN IN THE KINGEN CLAN.

EH?

Chew

YES.

KINREI IS THE ONLY SON?

Munch

That line doesn't seem quite suitable...

RIGHT, THAT'S THE ALL FEMALE CLAN.

THE MEMBERS OF THE "SHIGEKA" CLAN...

AH...

THE "SHIGEKA" CLAN IS ANOTHER ODD ONE

EH?

THE KINGEN CLAN SEEMS SO SPECIAL...

Well, it's more like they're odd.

ARE THE OTHER CLANS ORDINARY?

HMMM..

AH!

HUH?

BUT AREN'T THEY THE CLAN THAT "ONLY GIVES BIRTH TO GIRLS"?

REMAIN UNMARRIED,

THROUGH-OUT THEIR ENTIRE LIFETIMES.

Eek, I asked a weird question

HOW ARE THE PARTNERS CHOSEN...

THEN,

THEY ALL CONSUMMATE WITH OUTSIDERS,

FROM OUTSIDE THE CLAN...

THEY'RE RANDOMLY CHOSEN.

It doesn't seem quite right, huh

THEN RETURN TO THE CLAN TO HAVE THEIR CHILDREN.

ANYONE BORN TO THE CLAN IS CONSID-ERED A "SHIGEKA."

It's always been like that

UWA

CULTURE SHOCK...

PLEASE PRESERVE THIS SENSE OF "SPECIALNESS" IT GIVES YOU...

YES, IT IS QUITE UNUSUAL.

HOW...

HOW SPECIAL ... In many aspects

THAT'S TRUE,

EVEN IN THIS DIVERSE AND COSMOPOLITAN JAPAN,

THEIR APPEARANCE IS STILL EXTRAORDINARY.

BUT THE KINGEN CLAN IS ALSO "SPECIAL," RIGHT?

THAT GOLD HAIR AND SKIN COLOR,

ARE UNIQUE TO THE KINGEN CLAN...

EH? REALLY?

YES.

BECAUSE THE KINGEN BLOODLINE NEVER STRAYS.

SO IT'S LIKE THAT

SO NO OTHER CLANS HAVE MEMBERS THAT LOOK LIKE THAT?

ESPECIALLY IN THIS KIND OF WORLD.

YES,

INCREASES THEIR RARITY VALUE

THE FACT THAT THEY NUMBER SO FEW AND HAVE THOSE KINDS OF LOOKS,

IN ADDITION TO KINREI BEING THE ONLY ONE IN THE KINGDOM WHO CAN HEAR THE PRINCE'S VOICE,

Rarity value?

'CAUSE THERE'S ONLY ONE SUCH THING AND IT'S USEFUL, LIKE ME.

PEOPLE WON'T WANT TO REPLACE "GOD'S REPRESENTATIVE,"

THEY WILL ONLY WANT TO CLING TIGHTLY TO HIM.

THAT'S TRUE. .

THEY ARE THE "CONNECTION TO GOD" AND "GOD'S CHILD," HUH...

.....

FLAP FLAP

AH, IT'S MAHOGANY.

.....

SO WE'RE GOING IN PAIRS AGAIN?

To bathe.

Yep

THANK YOU!

For coming especially to inform us

HE SAYS THE BATH WATER IS READY.

Everybody, the bath water is prepared

MMM

PROMPTLY.

Fast!

THEN, LET'S GO, RAKAN.

HOLD ON A SECOND!!

HMM?

WHAT'S WRONG?

HOW CAN YOU STILL ASK THAT!

WE HAVEN'T DECIDED THE ORDER YET, YOU KNOW!

THEN HOW ABOUT DRAWING LOTS...

WITH YOUR X-RAY VISION, WOULDN'T YOU JUST BE ABLE TO SEE THE WINNING STICK?

Ah!

THEN WHY DON'T WE PLAY A GUESSING GAME?

ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS.

EXPLANATION IN PROGRESS

PLEASE HOLD ON FOR A MOMENT.

UNDERSTAND?

THEN,

START.

Rock paper scissors..?

A GUESSING GAME?

READY

ROCK PAPER SCISSORS!!

GOOD, WE'VE GOT A RESULT

2 and 2

ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS!

AH, LET'S TRY AGAIN.

OKAY!

THEN, WE'LL GO TAKE OUR BATH FIRST.

The youngest go first—

.....

HOW REGRETTABLE, CHIGUSA.

.....

HA HA HA HA HA

YOU STILL COULDN'T WIN!

EVEN WITH YOUR GOOD EYES,

THAT GAME WASN'T BAD AT ALL.

Then, I guess I only have Tohji to play with today.

Have to bathe together

!!!

HA...

.....

CREAK!

BANG!

FLUTTER

FLUTTER

.....

THEY'RE HERE!!

FLAP FLAP FLAP FLAP FLAP FLAP

FLAP FLAP FLAP FLAP FLAP FLAP

FLAP FLAP FLAP FLAP FLAP FLAP

SFX. HYU!
(QUICK MOVEMENT)

SFX. THUDDING, FALLING

MY "WITHERING" ABILITY...

IS USELESS AGAINST THE "ROCK'S" POWER...

MY BLOOD...

IS SLOWLY...

BEING ABSORBED.

EVEN IF I MOVE JUST A LITTLE.

.....

IT CUTS DEEPER AND DEEPER.

Seep

THEY'RE UNABLE TO BREAK THIS ROCK.

NO MATTER HOW MUCH THEY ATTACK.

THE AYAME BIRDS...

.....

AND MY VOICE!

HERE, NONE BUT THE AYAME CAN HEAR ME CALLING OUT...

MY "BLOOD," IF NOT MIXED WITH SOMEONE ELSE'S,

CEASES TO HAVE SUPERHUMAN "STRENGTH."

MY BLOOD WILL BE DEPLETED.

IF THIS CONTINUES ...WHAT WILL HAPPEN?

AND MY BODY WILL CEASE TO MOVE.

Crumble

THE ROCK PUPPETS ...

KINREI...

IS THERE ANY WAY FOR ME TO FIND "IT"?

I JUST HAVE TO THINK OF A WAY.

SUCH SMALL AYAME BIRDS...

CANNOT BREAK THIS ROCK.

I NEED TO FIND SOMETHING LARGER.

BUT A LARGER "WHAT"?

AYAME IS USELESS AGAINST ROCK.

DO I NEED TO SEARCH OUTSIDE OF AYAME FOR "IT"?

I DON'T KNOW OF SUCH A CREATURE.

CREATED BY USING MY BLOOD MIXED WITH A HUMAN'S...

THE "METHOD" OF CREATION.

"METHOD"...

"WRITTEN COMMANDS."

"SPREAD OUT THE WORDS."

RIGHT. I HAVE TO FIND SOME WORDS.

"BOOK"

"SCROLL"

"BOOK-SHELF"

"SPREAD OUT WORDS" ...

I STILL HAVE THIS "POWER."

TO USE MY "SIGHT"!

SEARCH QUICKLY!

SEARCH FOR A WRITTEN "METHOD" SOMEWHERE.

USE MY "SIGHT".

UNTIL EVERYTHING EXCEPT WORDS TURNS CLEAR TO ME.

MAKE EVERYTHING ELSE TRANSPARENT.

THE

SFX: FLASH!

OF

SFX: SWIFTLY

HURRY!

ANOTHER "METHOD"!

FIND THE ONE KINREI HAS, OR...

OF OF OF

HURRY UP AND FIND IT!

FIND A BOOKSHELF,

FIND A SCROLL,

...

WHAT'S THE MATTER?

YOU MIGHT AS WELL CALL YOURSELF THE "SANOME PRINCE."

JUST LIKE...

WHEN THE PRINCE FIRST APPEARED IN THE CAPITAL.

IF I REVEAL MYSELF TO THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD WITH THIS TITLE,

WILL THEY FEEL MORE AT EASE...?

"SANOME...

PRINCE."

"GOD'S CHILD" AND THE "CONNECTION TO GOD".

THE "PRINCE" AND "KINGEN KINREI",

I'VE NEVER CONSIDERED MYSELF TO BE "GOD'S CHILD",

NOT EVEN A LITTLE...

BUT...

ISN'T THE SO-CALLED "SANOME PRINCE"...

"ONE WITH UNIMAGINABLE POWER" AND THE POSITION OF "GOD'S CHILD"?

I MUST ALLOW THE PEOPLE TO UNDERSTAND,

"THE PRINCE IN THE CAPITAL IS AN AYAME."

PERHAPS,

I DON'T NEED TO THINK TOO MUCH ABOUT IT.

IT'D BE BEST IF IT WERE EASIER TO DISTINGUISH THE OPPOSING "SANOME PRINCE" THOUGH.

I WAS SO ORDINARY JUST A WHILE AGO,

JUST-AN ORDINARY HIGH SCHOOLER...

I DON'T REGRET IT ONE BIT.

BUT...

THE ENTIRE EXISTANCE OF THIS WORLD...

COMES WITH A LOT OF RESPONSIBILITIES.

THAT "TITLE",

...RESTS ON MY SHOULDERS.

USING THIS KIND OF POSITION,

I WILL REVEAL MYSELF...

AND BECOME THIS WORLD'S "CHILD OF GOD"...

I STILL FEEL SCARED.

...

BUT SOMETIMES

POOF

I'M READY.

AND I'VE ALREADY MADE UP MY MIND,

!

...

C

JUST NOW,

YOU WERE OFF IN DEEP THOUGHT ALL ALONE.

RAKAN,

OFTEN YOU...

SEEM TO KEEP YOUR TROUBLES TO YOURSELF.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING, STARING AT ME LIKE THAT?

UWA!

You, why haven't you gone to sleep yet?!

HMM,

I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU SOME-THING.

HUH?

I OFTEN WONDER,

THOSE WORRIES,

WON'T YOU SHARE THEM WITH ALL OF US?

EVEN IF IT CONCERNS THE FUTURE OF THIS WORLD.

IF YOU EXPRESS YOUR THOUGHTS THROUGH WORDS,

SHARING THEM WITH US,

WON'T WE BE ABLE TO HELP SEPARATE THE IMPORTANT FROM THE TRIVIAL?

WHETHER THEY ARE WORRIES OR GRIEVANCES,

WE'RE HERE FOR YOU.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BEAR THEM BY YOURSELF.

...YEAH.

...ORIGINALLY OF THIS NATURE?

NO, BEFORE HE LOST HIS MEMORIES,

CHIBUSA,

WAS HE...

YOU'RE RIGHT.

HE MUST HAVE BEEN EVEN MORE CONSIDERATE.

RAKAN,

YOU ARE THE YOUNGEST AMONG US,

SO YOU CAN DEFINITELY RELY ON US!

BY YOUR SIDE, YOU HAVE THREE...

IF IT'S DIVIDED AMONG FOUR PEOPLE,

THE BURDEN WILL LESSEN.

MMHM.

AH!

THE two OF you.

WHY DID YOU STOP THERE?

...ABOUT TWO OR THREE ADULTS.

...

Didn't dare to count them in

Eh?!

So Narushige knows how to joke, too...

THAT'S TOO GENERAL...

THERE SHOULD BE AROUND 10 ADULTS!

RANGING FROM KIDS TO ADULTS,

THERE ARE ABOUT 20 PEOPLE.

LET ME COUNT .

IF YOU COUNT THE GUARD, THERE WILL BE EVEN MORE PEOPLE.

AH, ALSO!

THANK YOU, EVERYONE.

ACTUALLY,

TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH,

I'M JUST A LITTLE BIT SCARED.

SO ...

AH,

REALLY,

I DON'T HAVE TO BE ALONE ANYMORE...

FROM NOW ON,

EVEN IF I ENCOUNTER ANY TROUBLES,

I'LL NEVER BE TOPPLED...

AH, IT'S REALLY THE SKY!

IF WE GO UP, WE'LL REACH THE SURFACE, WON'T WE?

THAT'S RIGHT.

YOU'VE ALL ENDURED IT WELL.

WHAT ARE THOSE PROTRU-SIONS ON THE SIDES?

THEY LOOK LIKE TREE BRANCHES.

WAH, WHAT A STEEP WALL!

We finally made it!

Wah!

THE STAIRS ONLY REACH UP UNTIL HERE

OKAY,

YUP

EH?!

LET'S CLIMB UP!

SINCE WE WERE YOUNG,

IN ORDER TO FIND FOOD,

BUT,

NORMAL PEOPLE WOULDN'T HAVE!

...CLIMB THE WALL OF THE CLIFF?!

YES.

WHAT'S THE MATTER? YOU'VE NEVER DONE IT BEFORE?

ALL THE MOUNTAINS AND THE CLIFFS,

WE OFTEN HAD TO CLIMB...

OR ANYTHING EDIBLE,

...

WHAT'S WRONG BOCCHAN*? YOU CAN'T CLIMB IT?

DON'T WORRY, YOU JUST WAIT HERE.

WE'LL THROW DOWN A ROPE FOR YOU ONCE WE REACH THE TOP

SFX: GRIMACE

*YOUNG MASTER

IN THIS PLACE TO WHICH THE PRINCE AND KINREI EXILED US.

I'LL CLIMB IT BY MYSELF!

He's so easy to deal with.

Indeed

SFX: SLIP!

WAH!

AAHH!

THUD!

Ah.

BOCCHAN SLIPPED DOWN.

IS HE OKAY?

HE SHOULD BE FINE.

IT HURTS ...

He should get the hang of it after a few tries.

HE'S JUST NOT USED TO IT

콱

콱

콱

...

HANDS, FINGERS, KNEES,

CLOTHES

THEY'VE ALL BEEN SORELY SCRATCHED.

Ouch!

...

DAMN,

THIS IS REALLY HARD TO CLIMB

DAMN IT...!

MADE IT!

YO!

OI

SHOULD WE THROW A ROPE DOWN FOR YOU?

AAHH!

THUD!

곽!

곽

곽

GRAB

HE'S REALLY QUITE STUBBORN.

IT'S amusing.

HE DOES HAVE GUTS.

NO NEED!

I'll climb it myself!

WHOA!

WOW!!

NOISY AS HELL,

...

WHAT ARE THEY SHOUTING FOR...

LIKE THEY'RE SO HAPPY,

DAMN IT !

YO,
THINK YOU CAN CLIMP UP HERE?
!
콰!
JUST A BIT MORE
I'M ALMOST THERE,
...
OF COURSE!
HEY,
NOT BAD, BOCCHAN.
IT WAS OKAY..
I'M EXHAUSTED...

HOW PRETTY!

HOW DID IT BECOME THIS WAY? IT'S AMAZING!

THERE ARE MANY TREES UP AHEAD TOO!

TO THINK THAT THEY'VE SPREAD THIS FAR...

LOOK, GUYS,

THERE'S WATER INSIDE.

YOU'RE RIGHT!

WOW!

AH, HERE ARE LIGHT FLOWERS

HEY, THEY MAKE SOUND!

Are these fruits?

Can they be eaten?

RING!

Planted a whole bunch of bell trees.

THE SANOME PRINCE...!

RAKAN REALLY IS...

THE PRINCE IS AMAZING

IT WAS RAKAN.

"IS THAT BAD?"

"WELL, AND I "

"WILL INCREASE THE GREEN WITH ALL MY MIGHT."

"A WORLD THAT'S GREEN ALL OVER."

"I'VE NEVER SEEN IT BEFORE."

"THAT'S WHY...I DON'T BELIEVE IN SOMETHING LIKE THAT."

INDEED.

HOW BEAUTIFUL.

...

"HOW BEAUTIFUL."

RUB

OH.....!

THAT BARRIER IS FORMIDABLE AS WELL AS EDIBLE,

IT'S ENOUGH THAT WE HAVE SANOME-SAMA'S PLANTS.

WE COULD SPEND A LIFETIME LIVING INSIDE HERE.

...

GRANDPA.

RUMBLE!

BEING COOPED UP IN HERE IS ALSO QUITE UNBEARABLE.

I really want to go hunting.

THAT'S ALL WELL AND GOOD, BUT,

WHINE WHINE

MAYBE WE HAVE TO CLIMB DOWN THE CLIFF.

WHO WOULD GO?

We'll die if we fall

WILL THOSE LEAVES GROW EVEN BIGGER?

HE SAID WE COULD EAT THEM.

THAT'S GREAT!

IT'S ALL THANKS TO THE LETTER FROM SANOME-SAMA.

THE PRINCE FROM THE CAPITAL?

What?!

Eh...?

SAWA RAKAN?

NO.

umm...

MY NAME IS SAWA RAKAN.

Hello.

YES.

ARE YOU THE SANOME -SAMA?

THEN,

That's the person who sent us the white letter.

SFX: REMARKABLE

WHAT'S THAT SOUND?

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

?

RUMBLE!

CREAK!

CRUNCH!

WHAT IS THAT SOUND?

IT'S COMING FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE CLIFF?

URGH

CRUNCH!

RUMBLE!

EH?

RUMBLE

I AM THE SANOME PRINCE.

"PRINCE" -SAMA...!

"SANOME" ...

WHAT A STRAIGHT-FORWARD PRINCE...

Was it really a suspicious looking letter?

Ah, as I expected?!

AT FIRST I THOUGHT IT WAS SOME KIND OF WEIRD LETTER.

THANK YOU FOR SENDING THAT LETTER,

AND THE SEEDS...

GASYA

An Honest Grandpa.

SFX SWIFTLY

FOUND IT!

THIS IS IT...!

WAS CALMLY DESPERATE AT FIRST.

THAT CHILD,

BORN 24 YEARS AGO.

HE WAS THE KINGEN CLAN'S ONLY REMAINING "CHILD."

THE SAME "KINREI" WE LATER KNOW.

HE WAS NAMED "KINREI*,"

AND THE WORLD HAD QUICKLY BEGUN TO WITHER.

THE SKY HAD BEEN DARK.

EVER SINCE... HE WAS ABLE TO UNDERSTAND THINGS,

*THE FIRST "KINREI" IS SPELLED WITH THE CHARACTERS "金令" WHICH MEANS "GOLD COMMAND." THE 2ND "KINREI" IS HIS CURRENT NAME, WHICH YOU MAY REMEMBER WAS CHANGED TO "金奴" OR "GOLD SLAVE."

The Fool

AND,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE EXCESSIVE NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE...

AND THE ONLY SURVIVING "SANOME",

LITTLE PLANTS, LITTLE WATER BUBBLING UP FROM THE GROUND...

WITH LITTLE FOOD,

THE "CAPITAL" ENCIRCLED BY SAND,

TO HIM IT WAS SIMPLY A "LOGICAL CONCLUSION."

KINREI DID NOT FEEL ANY SADNESS,

BUT,

HE HEARD,

THAT HIS MOTHER PASSED AWAY NOT LONG AFTER GIVING BIRTH TO HIM.

HE FELT THAT THAT TOO WAS A "VERY NATURAL OUTCOME."

"SOME TIME IN THE NEAR FUTURE, ALL THE PEOPLE OF THIS WORLD WILL DIE."

KINREI IMMEDIATELY GRASPED THE SITUATION.

"THIS WORLD, IS ABOUT TO END."

AND WOULD BE A FOOLISH THING TO DO.

ENDING HIS OWN LIFE WOULD HAVE NO MEANING,

HE UNDERSTOOD THAT IN THIS SWIFTLY DYING WORLD,

CONSIDERED THE "NEXT STEP."

THEN HE SLOWLY AND CALMLY...

BEFORE DEATH CAME,

HOW COULD HE FIND A WAY TO SURPASS HIS LIFE EXPECTANCY?

SIGH

MERELY SIGHING WOULD NOT SECURE A FUTURE.

HE HAD TO FIND A WAY TO SURVIVE.

"THEN, WHAT SHOULD BE DONE?"

HE READ ALL THE BOOKS HE COULD FIND.

EVERY SINGLE DAY HE READ.

HE READ MORE AND MORE,

AND THE MORE HE READ, THE DEEPER HE READ.

FROM THE BLACK BOOKS TO THE WHITE BOOKS,

TRACING BACK RECORDS FROM OTHER ERAS.

"KINGEN REPRESENTS THE LINK TO GOD."

AT FIRST,

HE THOUGHT THEY WERE MERELY RECORDS LEFT OVER FROM THE PAST.

"THE ONE AND ONLY CLAN THAT CAN ACT ON BEHALF OF GOD."

"THE KINGEN ARE ABLE TO HEAR GOD'S VOICE."

"THEN, WHAT SHOULD I DO?"

RELYING ON A NON-EXISTENT GOD WAS USELESS.

——...

HE BELIEVED THAT THERE WAS NO GOD.

AND IT WAS BECAUSE THERE WAS NO GOD,

THAT THE WORLD WAS IN SUCH A STATE.

THESE THINGS ...

WHO WAS IT THAT FIRST SAID THEM?

IF,

THERE REALLY IS A GOD,

AND THE WORLD STILL BECAME LIKE THIS,

HOW ON EARTH DID IT HAPPEN?

A SCROLL?

WHAT IS THAT...

...IN THE SAND?

THE WALL CRACKED,

THE SAND IS FLOWING IN.

HUH?

ONLY THIS SCROLL RUSHED IN WITH THE SAND

THE COLOR IS THE FAINT COLOR OF SAND,

THIS GREEN AND WHITE SCROLL IS CLEARLY DIFFERENT FROM THE "WHITE BOOKS."

I FOUND IT...

A MIXTURE OF THE GROWTH CONDITIONS OF STONE VEGETATION.

THEY AREN'T THE SAME AS FAIRY TALES,

BUT THEY RECORD INCON-CEIVABLE THINGS.

THE "GRAVEL ROAD'S LEAVES"?

"STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN?"

IT DOCUMENTS,

A SECRET DOOR BELOW THE STONE CEMETERY...

ARE THESE RECORDS FROM WHEN THE "CAPITAL" WAS SET UP?

"ETERNAL"

"YOU CAN CREATE PUPPETS"?

"WITH STONES, AYAME BLOOD AND HUMAN BLOOD,"

RECORDS OR SOMETHING...

"THE OLD WORLD'S"...

IT LOOKS AS IF IT WAS BURIED...

I DO NOT KNOW IF IT'S REAL,

"ETERNAL LIFE"...?

"THE SEED OF..."

Push

IS THIS THE ROCK?

"DESCEND THE STAIRS,"

"AND PUSH THE STONE WALL AT THE BOTTOM."

Tap!

"PUSH THE LEFTMOST ROCK IN THE MIDDLE ROW."

EXIT FROM THE EAST, GO ALONG THE RIGHT UNTIL YOU REACH THE NINTH STONE ROOM."

Tap!

Tap!

IT REALLY IS A "SECRET DOOR."

IT OPENED!

!

INSIDE...

THERE'S LIGHT?

THERE REALLY IS A HOLE BELOW THE CEMETERY

AS EXPECTED, ACCORDING TO THE SCROLL,

THERE ARE STAIRS.

Tap!

Tap!

Tap!

...

THERE'S THIS MUCH GRASS?

WHAT KIND OF LIGHT?

WHAT IS THIS...?

LIGHT?

A PERSON?

!

ARE THERE ALSO "PEOPLE" IN HERE?

tattoo

WHY IS SHE IS A PLACE LIKE THIS?

THE SANOME...?!

IS THAT...

저벅

저벅

저벅

WHAT'S GOING ON?

SHE'S GONE...

스윽

스윽!

COULD IT BE THAT THE PLANTS CAN EMIT LIGHT?

AND LIGHT

THE GROUND IS FILLED WITH PLANTS...

!

NOT A SINGLE PERSON IN SIGHT.

JUST WHAT IS THIS PLACE?

WHAT DID THE SANOME COME TO DO?

THERE ARE A LOT OF THAT KIND OF TREE

IS IT THE FIELD OF LIGHTS I READ ABOUT?

IT ONLY WITHERS HERE...?

CHILDREN...?!

—…?!

THIS IS...

A SANOME ...?!

SFX: BLOSSOM

SFX: SPROUT

TWINS...?

WHY ARE THEY HERE?

WHAT ARE THEY DOING IN A TREE!?

THEN, THIS IS...

COULD IT BE...

THAT THEY ARE THE CHILDREN OF THAT SANOME?

THIS ONE IS...

AN AYAME —— ...

샤아!!

IF YOU CHOOSE ME,

WOULDN'T YOU LIKE...

THEN I WILL GIVE YOU "POWER."

TO SAVE YOURSELF?

THIS IS JUST THE KIND OF THING KINREI HAS BEEN SEARCHING FOR,

EVER SINCE THE START.

WERE ALL DUE TO THE IMPORTANCE OF "RANKS" IN THE WORLD.

AND TO THE PEOPLE AROUND HIM,

...THE TIES BINDING HIM TO HIS CLAN.

IT'S EVERY MAN FOR HIMSELF.

IN THE END, "PEOPLE ARE JUST "INDIVIDUALS", SO...

HIS JUDGMENT OF PEOPLE IS BASED ONLY ON "WHETHER THEY ARE USEFUL OR NOT,"

TO HIM, PEOPLE CAN EITHER BE A "MEANS" OR "LABORERS".

HE DOESN'T WANT TO SAVE ANYONE,

HE DOESN'T WANT TO PROTECT ANYONE,

HE IS COMPLETELY DEVOID OF SUCH EMOTIONS.

HE FELT THAT FOR HIS OWN SAKE, HE SHOULD PUT IN ALL HIS EFFORT.

HE WOULD USE ANY "MEANS" NECESSARY.

TO SECURE HIS OWN LIFE,

"THEN, WHAT SHOULD I DO?"

HE HAD TO HAVE A GOAL IN MIND.

IN ORDER TO SURVIVE THE EVENTUAL DEATH OF THE WORLD,

BUT,

AND HE HAS A PROPHETIC ABILITY

WITH HIS VISION, HE CAN SEE WHAT OTHERS CANNOT,

IN ADDITION,

WITH AYAME POWERS,

THIS... IS AN AYAME CHILD,

EVERYONE WILL DIE.

AS LONG AS THEY ARE HUMAN,

...

IF THERE IS NO GOD, THEN I...

WILL BECOME "GOD."

IF THE WORLD WILL PERISH ONE DAY,

THEN I WILL BE ITS "DESTROYER."

IF THE PLANTS WILL DIE ONE DAY,

THEN I WILL BECOME THE "ONE WHO WITHERS THEM."

I JUST HAVE TO BECOME...

SOMETHING "ABOVE" THAT AND I'LL BE FINE.

OR THE EXISTENCE OF THE "SEED OF ETERNAL LIFE."

WHETHER IT IS ABOUT PART OF THE "OLD WORLD" BEING UNDERGROUND;

EVERY-THING ON IT IS TRUE.

THIS WHITE SCROLL...

IN ORDER TO CONTROL THIS WORLD,

I WILL DO AS I PLEASE.

I WILL MAKE HIM "GOD'S CHILD,"

CROWN HIM THE "PRINCE."

"KINREI, THE ONE WHO CAN HEAR GOD'S VOICE."

THIS AYAME CHILD'S VOICE,

EVEN IF WE GO OUT;

ONLY I AM CAPABLE OF HEARING IT.

I WILL STAND IN A "GOD"-LIKE POSITION

YES, THEN I WILL MAKE THIS...

MY "SURVIVAL TARGET"——!!

AFTER THAT, I WILL FIND THE "SEED OF ETERNAL LIFE",

AND GAIN IMMORTALITY.

I WANT THE WORLD TO BECOME A PART OF ME.

I DON'T WANT TO BECOME PART OF THE WORLD,

I WILL MAKE THIS WORLD,

BECOME ANOTHER "MEANS" FOR MY SURVIVAL.

.WHAT?

EH?

GIVE ME YOUR BLOOD!

...

GIVE ME...

SFX: CROWD NOISE

YOU'RE OUTNUMBERED TWENTY TO ONE, SO WHY DON'T YOU JUST GIVE IT UP

DO YOU WANT TO DRINK IT?

...WHAT'S WITH YOU?

OH RIGHT, YOU'RE THE ENEMY.

Boochan

두근

THAT'S NOT...

BLOOD?

WHO WOULD DRINK IT?!

두근

YOU GUYS ARE SO NOISY!!

...!!

WHAT?

HUH?

TO TRAVEL FOR-WARD

SPEAK A BIT MORE CLEARLY.

Isn't this too sudden?

...

SOME PUPPETS

I..

WANT TO MAKE...

SFX TIGHTEN

...!

YOU GUYS.

I...I DON'T WANT TO WASTE THAT MUCH ENERGY, SO, I WANT TO USE THESE STONES I HAPPEN TO HAVE WITH THE PRINCE'S BLOOD, APPLY WHAT I LEARNED FROM KINREI-SAMA, AND CREATE SOME STONE PUPPETS FOR EVERYONE TO SIT ON!

HOW DO YOU PLAN ON WALKING ALL THE WAY TO THE CAPITAL? IT'S TOO FAR AND IT WILL BE TOO TIRING, RIGHT?

SFX: BLANK LOOK

AH!

SO WHAT?

SFX SHOCK

HM,

IS THAT SO...

...

...

...

...HOW DO I...

REALLY WANTED TO DO THIS FOR THEM, BUT,

I HONESTLY ..

DAMN IT...

DAMN ...

I HAVE NO IDEA HOW TO EXPRESS MYSELF ..!!

I...

WITHOUT REVEALING MY FEELINGS,

HOW DO I CREATE A STONE PUPPET LARGE ENOUGH FOR EVERYONE TO RIDE ON?

Without friends for 3 years

I...HAPPEN TO HAVE SOME OF THAT SPECIAL ROCK LEFTOVER, SO I WAS THINKING PERHAPS I COULD MAKE A SIMILAR KIND OF STONE CREATURE!

WHAT I'M TRYING TO SAY IS...!

IN ONE BREATH.

HOWEVER...I WANT TO MAKE A LARGER ONE, SO WHEN I'M CREATING IT, IF YOU GUYS COULD ALSO SPARE A LITTLE BLOOD, THEN, I WON'T MIND IF YOU WANT TO TRAVEL TO THE CAPITAL WITH ME ON THAT THING, YOU HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH ME AFTER ALL.

SO, THAT'S WHY I WANT YOUR BLOOD. MOREOVER, THE CURRENT SITUATION IS NOT IN MY FAVOR, SO HOW COULD I BE STUPID ENOUGH TO MAKE YOU MY ENEMIES?

PFFT

OBVIOUSLY!!

Such an insignificant matter!

HUFF

HUFF

UNDER-STOOD THEN, SHALL WE MAKE IT...?

UN...

Everyone has already seen through him.

YOU REALLY CAN'T GET TIRED OF TEASING THIS GUY...!!

Poor guy..

We'll give you blood!

It's too fun.!

...They pity him more and more.

...

LISTEN CLOSELY. TO MAKE IT, YOU NEED A NAMED ROCK...

THAT'S THE AYAME PRINCE'S BLOOD?

HUMAN BLOOD, THE PRINCE'S BLOOD,

EXACTLY

OH—

How scary..

SO IT WON'T DRY UP.

YES,

THE PRINCE'S BLOOD HAS A SPECIAL POWER,

AND THE "WORDS" OF THE BLOOD'S OWNERS.

IN ANY CASE, IN THE END IT WILL LISTEN TO WHAT THE BLOOD'S OWNERS SAY, SO,

AS LONG AS THE MEANING GETS THROUGH, THERE SHOULD BE A RESPONSE ..

HM, THE "WORDS" TO CREATE A PUPPET ARE...

"Yougo",
"Akiichi",
NOW THEN, FOLLOW MY EXAMPLE,
"Munan",
"Your name is Jamon."
"Your master is Shirakawa Hakubi."
"Atsuhito" ...
I COMMAND YOU TO OBEY THE WORDS OF BLOOD,
GATHER LARGE AND,
RISE!
SHRRRK
FOUR LIMBS, EYES IN THE CENTER,
AND THE STRENGTH TO LET YOUR MASTERS RIDE ON YOU.
SHAA

절그럭
절그럭
절그럭
절그럭
절그럭

OH, SO YOU'RE NOT OUR ENEMY?
Not anymore.
...I AM!!
SUCH A DIFFICULT GUY...
DON'T CALL ME THAT!
BOCCHAN, YOU'RE PRETTY CAPABLE!
TOO BAD YOU'RE AN ENEMY!
DON'T CALL ME THAT EITHER!!
AMAZING, SOMETHING CAME OUT!
WHOA—
What is that?
AH, WE CAN RIDE IT
AND IT'S OBEDIENT

!

BUT,

THIS ALSO SHOWS THE KIND OF POWER THE AYAME PRINCE HAS...

HOW FUN.

To be able to make something like that

...

!!!

THAT'S RIGHT,

THIS WAR WON'T BE A BORING ONE!

I really hope we'll see him soon

Yeah!

LET'S HURRY AND CATCH UP WITH THE SANOME PRINCE!

!

DON'T THANK ME.

THANKS, HAKUBI!

WE'LL BE COUNTING ON YOU FROM NOW ON.

HE SEEMS VERY TROUBLED ...

Noticed everything.

WHAT KIND OF FACIAL EXPRESSION SHOULD I WEAR WHEN WE MEET AGAIN...?

I...

I...STILL HAVE TO SEE HIM AGAIN...?!

THIS IS BAD...

I TOTALLY FORGOT THAT THEY WERE THE COMRADES OF THAT SANOME!

SFX: IMPACT

!

IT'S SHAKING AGAIN...

THERE WERE A LOT OF TREMORS TODAY

COULD IT BE THAT PART OF THE GROUND COLLAPSED?

I HOPE THE CAPITAL IS OKAY .

DON'T WORRY, WITH THE PRINCE AROUND,

HE WILL "PROPHESY" ANY DANGER.

KINREI,

PLUS, THERE'S ALSO KINREI-SAMA'S SERPENT.

YOU'RE RIGHT,

WE HAVE "KOKUYOU" -SAMA TO PROTECT US...

WHEN CAN WE DELIVER HER TO THE GARDEN BELOW?

THAT SANOME..

...

WITH A SANOME,

THIS WORLD WON'T PERISH, AND WE CAN START OVER.

IT'S PERFECT .!

PLEASE DO.

I'VE TOLD SHIGEYUKI TO BRING HER OVER ONCE IT IS TIME...

THE SANOME'S POWER IS NOT YET FULLY DEVELOPED.

SO I'M AFRAID YOU WILL HAVE TO WAIT A LITTLE LONGER.

YOU CAN'T LET THE KINGEN CLAN JUST DIE OFF LIKE THIS...

KINREI,

I'LL JUST PRETEND THAT THIS IS STATE OF AFFAIRS.

FOR NOW,

YES...

YOUR FATHER, KINJOU,

HASN'T MUCH LONGER TO LIVE.

YOU ARE THE LAST YOUNG KINGEN MALE,

YOU MIGHT AS WELL MARRY OUTSIDE OF THE CLAN.

WE ALREADY HAVE NO MORE FEMALES,

SO WE ALSO CAN'T HAVE MORE CHILDREN,

..

FOR NOW,

ISN'T IT MORE IMPORTANT TO CONTINUE THE BLOODLINE OF "GOD'S REPRESENTATIVE"?

THERE'S NO NEED TO CONTINUE TO PRESERVE BYGONE TRADITIONS.

ACTUALLY, IN THE PAST,

WE HAVE SOMETIMES SECRETLY MIXED OUR BLOOD WITH THE BLOOD OF OTHER CLANS.

...

SO GIVE IT SOME THOUGHT.

SFX: CLATTER!

AS LONG AS IT'S A GIRL YOU LIKE,

ANYONE WILL DO.

IS IT THAT IMPORTANT?

OF COURSE.

IF YOU DO,

THE PEOPLE WILL FEEL MORE AT EASE.

MY UNCLES HAVE GIVEN EVERYTHING FOR THE SAKE OF THE PEOPLE.

...UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT OF BEING "GOD'S REPRESENTATIVES",

AN EMOTION I DO NOT HAVE

THAT IS

NONE OF THEM INTEREST ME

NO MATTER WHO I CHOOSE, IT'S ALL THE SAME,

"As long as it's a girl you like, anyone will do."

"SATISFIED" ...

I'LL BE SATISFIED IF I CAN EXTEND MY OWN LIFE

AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED,

LET ALONE THE FACT THAT I HAVE NO INTEREST IN CONTINUING OUR BLOODLINE.

UP UNTIL NOW,

NEARLY EVERYTHING WENT AS I WISHED

CREATING STONE PUPPETS, CONTROLLING THEM, IS ALSO ENTERTAINING

AS IS PATROLLING UNDERGROUND

THE GROUND, COLLAPSING -LIKE TOY BRICKS,-

WOULD ALSO BE FUN TO WATCH

WATCHING EVERYBODY DANCE TO MY TUNE IS SO VERY ENTERTAINING

AS THE WORLD ABOVE FALLS TO RUINS,

THE PATHS LEADING UNDER-GROUND WILL BE OPENED WIDE

THE TARGET SET WHEN I WAS YOUNG,

IS BEING REALIZED STEP BY STEP

THEN ACCORDING TO THE PROPHECY,

HEAVEN AND EARTH WILL RUN WILD,

RIDDING THE LAND OF THE UNWANTED HUMAN RACE,

NOW I JUST HAVE TO FIND THE "SEED OF IMMORTALITY",

AND I HAVE GAINED "POWER" TOO

THE SCROLL THAT I FOUND,

CAN REPLACE THE "PRINCE'S PROPHECIES",

AND LETTING THE "WORLD" BECOME MINE...

I WILL BE ABLE TO CHANGE IT AT WILL, PROPEL IT IN ANY DIRECTION I WANT,

SO I WILL NEVER GROW WEARY OF IT.

THAT'S THE FUTURE I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO.

...

WHY DO I NOT FEEL THAT EXCITED?

BUT, WHY?

IT'S NOT ENOUGH...

MY HEART CAN'T LIGHTEN UP IN JOY.

ACTUALLY

AM I MISSING SOMETHING?

"THE SEED OF ETERNAL LIFE",

I HAVEN'T ACQUIRED IT YET, BUT...

...THAT'S JUST THE "THRILL OF SEEKING IT."

COULD IT BE THAT I PERSONALLY...

AM LACKING SOMETHING?

WHAT IS IT?

Tap

Tap

Tap

SFX CREAK!

SFX SLAM

A LACK OF EMOTIONS?

OR SOMETHING ELSE...?

BUT THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN USELESS AGAINST THE ROCK.

THE PRINCE MUST HAVE CALLED HIS AYAME,

AYAME SCALES.

CINDERS

NO,

HE MUST HAVE BEEN TESTING IT...

LETTING HIS AYAME ATTACK TENSEI,

AND ONCE THAT FAILED, HE MADE THEM ALL HIS NUTRIENTS.

RANPO!

Come here.

CRUNCH

THE ROCK...

HAS ALREADY TURNED RED.

IT MUST'VE ABSORBED QUITE A BIT OF BLOOD.

HE'S NOT DEAD.

JUST SLEEPING...

HE MUST HAVE GONE INTO A HIBERNATIVE STATE TO CONSERVE HIS ENERGY...

SFX: SNAP

TENSEI,

EXTEND YOUR BRANCH,

CONCEN-TRATE ALL OF THE BLOOD HERE.

SNAP

AND REPLENISH HIS BLOOD...

SO, I HAVE TO KEEP HIM TRAPPED HERE,

...

THIS IS THE "ROCK" THAT CONTAINS THE PRINCE'S BLOOD.

GIVE HIM SOME NUTRIENTS,

BECAUSE IT IS THE SOURCE OF MY "STRENGTH"

I'LL STILL NEED HIS BLOOD IN THE FUTURE,

WITH THIS I CAN CREATE MORE STONE PUPPETS.

EMILL...

...?!

SFX: BOOM!

SFX: CREAK

WHAT IS THAT NOISE ?

?

RATTLE

RATTLE

RATTLE

SFX: CRASH!

...

SFX: CREAK

SFX: SWAY...

SFX: CRASH!

...A SKELETON?!

RANPO, PROTECT ME!

TENSE!!

SFX: CRUSH

!

!!

RUMBLE

RUMBLE

RUMBLE

!!

SFX: SMASH

CRASH

...

KOKUYOU ...!

THUD...

"KOKU-YOU"...

DIDN'T COME?!

NO MATTER WHEN OR WHERE,

HE SHOULD LISTEN TO THE OWNER OF THE BLOOD!

I SHOULD THROW AWAY THE RED STONE.

Cough

...

THE PRINCE'S DOING

IT WAS ALL...!

!

...

HOK

Snatch

PRINCE ..

THAT SKELETON IS ..

YOUR SOURCE OF POWER,

IS IT MISSING?

SFX. GRIP

Stagger...

...

"READ"?

I READ YOUR SCROLL.

AND CREATED IT...

I CONTROLLED THE AYAME.

I USED MY "EYES",

...FROM HERE...

I SAW THE SCROLL...

HIDDEN IN YOUR ROOM...

AND I READ EVERYTHING...

...NOT BAD, ISN'T IT?

AND USE IT TO WRITE OUT A "COMMAND" TO SUMMON THE REST OF THE SKELETON.

THEN I LET THE AYAME BRING SOME OF MY BLOOD OVER THERE.

AND LET THE AYAME DIG IT UP.

I FOUND THE HEAD PORTION OF THE SKELETON.

THIS WAS A LIVING CREATURE IN THE PAST.

KINREI.

I HAVE ALSO DONE...

SOME DEEP REFLECTION.

I DIDN'T THINK HE WOULD WASTE THIS MUCH ENERGY,

AND DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS.

...

HE RARELY USES HIS SIGHT...

IN ORDER TO PROTECT MYSELF.

WHAT SHOULD I DO FIRST?

I RE-FLECTED UPON ...

WHAT I SHOULD DO.

...

"REFLEC-TION"?

HUMANOID AYAME..

ARE CAPABLE OF RELECTION...?

.....?

...

I HURT VERY MUCH TOO...

DOES IT HURT, KUREI?

...I, AS WELL

THAT YORUBASHI PHYSICIAN,

CAN HE HEAL YOU QUICKLY?

KUREI.

IF I EXERT ANY MORE STRENGTH,

I WILL DIE...

...YOUR BONES HAVE ALREADY BROKEN.

ONE, TWO...

FOUR OF THEM.

...

DRINK MY BLOOD.

AND YOU WILL RECOVER IMMEDI-ATELY.

I HAVE NO CHOICE,

I HAVE TO QUIETLY ACCEPT HIS CONDITIONS.

...THAT'S RIGHT...

THE STONE PUPPETS CANNOT WIN AGAINST THIS "SKELETON".

RIGHT,

WITHOUT THAT "BLOOD ROCK",

I NEED MORE OF THE PRINCE'S BLOOD.

IS HE GIVING ME CONDITIONS?

HE'S TRYING TO SAY, "IF I GIVE YOU MY BLOOD, DO NOT BETRAY ME."

THE FIRST TIME I MET HIM,

HE ALSO SET ME CONDITIONS...

"PRINCE",

GIVE ME BLOOD.

...?

MY VOICE...

ONLY YOU AND "MY AYAME" CAN HEAR IT.

THAT IS A HUMILIATION!

I HAVE REFLECTED UPON...

HOW TO SAVE MYSELF.

...KINREI.

...

ANSWER ME!

I CANNOT BEAR`—

BEING USED BY ANYONE...!!

...YES.

KINREI...

...

YOU FOOL.

DO YOU REALLY WANT MY BLOOD?

I CANNOT BEAR IT ANY LONGER!

SINCE SUCH A THING...

COULD HAPPEN YET AGAIN

NO MATTER WHAT LIFE OR FUTURE AWAITS

...

FROM NOW ON,

HOW I WILL PROTECT MYSELF.

THIS IS...

I WILL NOT GIVE MYSELF TO "ANYONE"!

FAREWELL, KINREI!!

AND THAT INCLUDES YOU.

IDIO...!

Sigh!

WHO IS THE FOOLISH ONE!!

PRINCE?!

SFX: DASH!

THUD!!

K.C.

WHOOSH

AH

WILL I BE ABLE TO DO IT?!

MOVE!

BUMP

THUD

!

PRINCE!

Grab

...HOW DID THIS HAPPEN.

PRINCE.

YOU REALLY ARE...

PRINCE...

A FOOL.

PRINCE...!

SFX THROB OF PAIN

따끔

.....?

Yes, I always add a subtitle because I fee. that the title "Silver Diamond" doesn't tell you anything, so I asked the editors for permission to add a subtitle at the corner of the cover's color illustration, to let the readers draw their own meanings I didn't think the editors would also help me add a border, he he I'm so delighted~ (even now !) Every time I look forward to the kind of border they create for me, I'm so grateful!

Once again I've been stuck in a stagnant period, thank you for the regular e-mails some readers send me Also, I've been too busy all this time to write thanks to those readers that sent me New Year cards (Ah, two months of the year have already passed) And even more so are my feelings of thankfulness toward those readers who sent me Valentine's Day chocolates, I've eaten them all Thanks to those who sent me CDs too After I discussed [Hiagon. (a manga by Masumura Hiroshi-sensei)] on "Writers", there really was someone who sent me a Hideyoshi (the manga's main character) doll I'm really grateful! It's a very valuable item indeed!

And to all that send me letters or other items, I treasure a. of them

I will continue to work hard drawing manga
See you next year everyone. I wish you all a great year!
(This seems a bit too early!!!)

Sugimoto Ai 2007

FOUND THEM.

AND?

AS EXPECTED THEY WERE NEAR THE GREEN GRASS AHEAD OF YAKUBO.

THAT...

SO IT'S LIKE THAT...

NO WONDER THEY'RE A BIT OFF COURSE.

DISTRIBUTE THE ARROWS LACED WITH SLEEPING DRAUGHT TO EVERYONE.

TWO FOR EACH PERSON.

OKAY.

SFX: SLIDE

SFX: SLASH

IF EVERYONE'S FIGURES DISAPPEARED THAT WOULD ALSO BE TROUBLE-SOME.

THEN WHAT ABOUT THE VINES TO MAKE US INVISIBLE?

THAT WAY, IT SHOULD ONLY MASK OUR SMELL

LET'S JUST CRUSH THE FRUIT OF THE PLANT AND SMEAR IT ON OUR BODIES.

SQUEAK

SPROUT

SFX. QUICK PROGRESS

SFX. GLOW

shine

shine

shine

HELLO,

Please—

WILL YOU BLOOM?

Swirling Whirlpools

MHM.

Big sister.

Can I eat a few flowers?

Go ahead

SHE'S ASKING YOU.

WAA.

IT'S SO PRETTY!

Thank you, you've worked hard

INDEED

Wa—

How sweet! It's delicious! ♥

KURO ALWAYS SAVES THE FLOWERS FOR LAST.

TREATING THEM LIKE DESSERT ...

Just like a girl

SFX: ROAR OF DELIGHT

—...

Somewhat aware of something.

SMACK!

RAKAN IS ALSO VERY PRETTY.

I just felt that you deserved it

Why did you hit me?

HE WAS SO CUTE JUST NOW

He did.

He just called you pretty.

RIGHT NOW,

WE ARE RELYING ON THE BLACK MAP FOR DIRECTIONS.

WE'VE ARRIVED AT THIS PLACE CALLED "YAKUBO".

COULD WE BE TOO SLOW?

YES

IT'S THIS AREA, RIGHT ...

BECAUSE I'VE BEEN GOING HERE AND THERE TO PLANT SEEDS, THAT'S WHY WE'RE SO SLOW...

Oh~ Hmm

TWICE THE DISTANCE...

JUST ABOUT.

THERE'S STILL 2/3 OF THE ROUTE TO REACH THE CAPITAL SO WE HAVE ABOUT TWICE THE DISTANCE WE'VE COVERED LEFT?

AFTER ALL, THERE'S ONLY FOUR OF US...

EVEN WITH THE BIRDS HELPING I STILL SEEM SO BUSY

THE AREA IS REALLY TOO BIG.

BUT RAKAN IS THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN MAKE PLANTS GROW.

LUCKILY WE HAVE KARAKU'S BIRDS,

TO HELP SPREAD THE SEEDS

WE'LL JUST HAVE TO SPREAD THE SEEDS AS WE GO.

——…

HM?

WHAT?

What is it?

NOTHING, NOTHING AT ALL.

REALLY?

YEP.

RAKAN IS ALWAYS LIKE THIS.

MHM.

YOU'RE RIGHT, LET'S GO.

ANYWAY,

LET'S JUST HEAD FOR THE NEXT PLACE!

DO NOT WORRY, THERE IS NO ONE OUTSIDE

IS THERE ANYONE ELSE HERE?

COMING SO SUDDENLY, DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?

IT'S KINREI-SAMA...

CLICK

YOU'RE USUALLY CALM, WHAT IS THE MATTER?

"BRING THE SANOME TO THE PRINCE'S CHAMBERS AT ONCE."

HE WANTED ME TO TELL YOU,

Manasaki Sakumori

THE PRINCE ..

IS INJURED.

"AT ONCE"?

EH?

WHAT IN THE WORLD HAPPENED?

WHAT WERE THOSE NOISES JUST NOW?

HOW DID YOU GET INJURED?

KINREI!

BUT PEOPLE ON THE OUTSIDE,

THE WALL...?

SAID THEY SAW A "STRANGE SILHOUETTE IN THE BUILDING"

!

DAMN, ,WE WERE SEEN...?

TO BE HONEST...

THE WALL WAS PROBABLY GETTING TOO OLD AND WORN..

SOME OF IT COLLAPSED.

SO, I GOT A LITTLE HURT..

HE'S FINE.

IS HE OKAY?

THE PRINCE ...?!

THAT'S A RELIEF.

FROM THE CLIFFS,

A LARGE AYAME CREATURE SUDDENLY APPEARED.

IT WAS THE PRINCE...

WHO SUBDUED THE CREATURE

IT BROKE DOWN THE OLD WALL AND ENTERED.

AYAME ..?

...

HOW MUCH OF THE WALL COL-LAPSED?

WE HAD BETTER MOVE THE PRINCE. .

IS THE AYAME STILL THERE?

LUCKILY, THE INNERMOST BEDCHAMBER WAS UNDAMAGED, SO, LEAVING HIM THERE IS FINE.

WE CAN'T MOVE HIM NOW.

AND HE HAS GONE INTO A "DEEP SLEEP"

THE PRINCE'S "STRENGTH" HAS BEEN EXHAUSTED

NO,

..UNCLES,

ENJU AND THE REST ARE TAKING CARE OF THE AYAME, PLEASE DON'T WORRY,

RIGHT NOW,

I WILL FIND THE AYAME...AND FIX THE WALL.

AS FOR THE BROKEN WALL,

AH,

YOU'RE RIGHT.

I UNDER-STAND.

THEN, I'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU.

I'M AFRAID THE PEOPLE WILL WORRY

AND . KEEP THE PART ABOUT ME BEING INJURED HIDDEN.

"THE PRINCE WATCHES OVER ALL "

"EVERY-THING IS FINE, NO NEED TO WORRY", AND...

PLEASE TELL THE OUTSIDERS,

WE STILL CAN'T MOVE IT

Not even a little bit

IT SEEMS TO BE STUCK HERE.

WE DON'T KNOW HOW WE SHOULD HANDLE THIS...

CREAK...

KINREI-SAMA!

...!

KINREI.

JUST FIX UP THE BROKEN WALL, AND LEAVE IT AT THAT.

YES...

Ensui Enju

WITH MY CURRENT STRENGTH, I'M UNABLE TO MOVE SOMETHING THAT LARGE

FORGET IT.

JUST LEAVE IT FOR NOW

...

IT ONLY OBEYS THE PRINCE'S WILL.

I FEAR THAT UNTIL THE PRINCE 'AWAKES', IT WILL REMAIN IMMOBILE.

WAS IT SOMETHING YOU AND THE PRINCE *CONSTRUCTED*?

THAT THING ..

JUST WHAT...

IN THE WORLD HAPPENED?

YES,

THE PRINCE AND I ..

TELL US AS WELL...?

COULD YOU. .

WHAT HAPPENED?

THAT'S ALL.

HAD A LITTLE ROW,

A ROW?

HOW DID "A ROW" HAPPEN?

That sounds so childish.

AND THE PRINCE?

SHOULD WE CARRY HIM TO ANOTHER ROOM?

BUT, THIS ROOM...

NO, JUST LET HIM SLEEP HERE.

RIGHT NOW,

!

WE MUST.

ONLY USE ROOMS BUILT WITH BONES OR STONE...

IF WE CARRY HIM TO A ROOM MADE OF WOOD, I'M AFRAID IT WILL WITHER.

KINREI -SAMA!

Tap

KINREI -SAMA,

I WILL HELP YOU WATCH OVER THE PRINCE,

SO PLEASE REST!

HOW IS THE PRINCE?

YOU HAVE BROKEN BONES,

SO YOU MUST REST WELL FOR IT TO HEAL!

I WILL PRESCRIBE MEDICINE FOR YOU RIGHT AWAY

THE SANOME IS COMING SOON.

I'LL WATCH THE PRINCE BY MYSELF.

YOU SHOULD RETIRE FOR NOW, YORUAKI.

I WILL HEAL MUCH FASTER THAN NORMAL.

NO...

Tap

DON'T GIVE ME ANY MEDICINE

I'M FINE.

I'VE DRUNK A BIT OF THE PRINCE'S BLOOD, SO,

UNDER-STOOD.

...

...

PRINCE.

SFX: SLAM

...MY HEART,

CANNOT LIGHTEN UP AT ALL,

저벅
OKAY.
I'm going to take a stroll over there
The fragrant smell of rocks.
THERE ARE AYAME HIDING IN THE SAND.
THEY KEEP INCREASING IN NUMBER.
SHOULD I SCATTER THE "BONE PLANT" SEEDS FIRST?
In order to avoid the ayame.
THAT'S RIGHT.
!

NO MATTER HOW MANY "PRETTY THINGS" I HAVE SEEN SO FAR.

WAH, THEY'RE COMING!

Give me a sword too

SFX: BANG.

SFX: BATTLE NOISES.

Right, I'll plant these first

NARUSHIGE, TAKE RAKAN WITH YOU AND CLIMB TO THE TOP OF THE HILL

GOT IT!

OKAY!

RAKAN, SCATTER THE SEEDS OF THE BONE PLANT

SHI-NG-

I'M LEAVING THAT SIDE TO YOU

YEAH!

SFX BANG BANG

THAT WAS THE LAST ONE.

Bang

ARE THERE ANY OTHERS?

BONE PLANT!

WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU,

SFX: SNAP

OK, RAKAN.

THANKS FOR YOUR HARD WORK.

YEAH

...

BUT...

OH!

SFX: 지잉

THAT'S RIGHT.

SEEM TO ONLY COME OUT OF THE SAND...

THOSE AYAME.

WHAT'S WRONG?

Snap...

Slither

IT'S NOTHING.

I WAS JUST THINKING.

THAT'S WHY WE'RE PREVENTING THEM FROM SPREADING OUT IN THE SAND.

By scattering the "bone" seeds.

YES.

BUT, IF THEY COME OUT OF THE SAND FROM BOTH ENDS,

WON'T THE PLANTS WITHER?

Forest

Bone Branches Net

Rock

Sand

(Ayame)

Sand

"PERMEATE"?

THAT'S BECAUSE THEIR TAILS ARE STUCK TO THE SAND.

"UNABLE TO SEPARATE"...?

Eh?

Their tails?

NO, IT'S MORE LIKE THEIR TAILS PERMEATE INTO THE SAND..

ARE BASICALLY "UNABLE TO SEPARATE" FROM THE SAND

How does that work?

AH...

I'LL LET YOU KNOW.

THOSE AYAME,

...

HMM, LET'S SEE...

In the midst of remembering

THAT PART IS TRANSPARENT?

WHY IS IT LIKE THAT?!

EH, EH, EH?!

!!

...

ITS UPPER BODY IS HARD AND SOLID, AND CAN BE GRABBED.

why s it like that

EH? COULD IT BE,

Gas

Liquid

Solid

...THIS KIND OF THING...?

FROM THERE, THE BODY STARTS GETTING SOFTER,

MORE TRANSPARENT, AND MELDS TOGETHER WITH THE SAND. THAT PART CANNOT BE GRABBED.

IT'S TAIL AREA IS STUCK TO THE SAND .

IT CAN EXTEND UP TO A CERTAIN LIMIT, BUT .

JUST WHAT EXACTLY DID THEY EVOLVE FROM!!!

What a thought provoking world.

THEY'RE ABLE TO ABSORB NUTRIENTS,

TO MAKE THEIR BODIES MORE SOLID.

EH—

YES.

It's that kind of life form.

IS THAT REALLY A LIFE FORM?!

It couldn't be a solid (?) apparition or something like that, could it.

EXCEPT FOR WHEN THEY ARE TORN OUT,

THEY ARE UNABLE TO LEAVE THE SAND.

Eh? What about carome bodies, then?

T-TORN OUT...?

Tearing out their transparent tail?

UNDER THE BONE TREES

Their limit →

Forest

Bone Branches Net

Sand

THEREFORE, RAKAN, REGARDING THE FOREST YOU GREW,

SO IT'S LIKE THAT.

THEY CANNOT ENTER THE FOREST TO MAKE IT WITHER.

The larger the forest, the more unlikely it'd be

THE BONE TREES WILL NOT BE AFFECTED SINCE THE AYAME CAN'T LEAVE THE SAND.

EVEN IF THE AYAME COME OUT FROM THE SURROUNDING SAND,

RAKAN!

EH?

SFX GRAB.

I HOPE THERE AREN'T TOO MANY.

THEY CAN LEAVE THE SAND TO FLY ANYWHERE, VERY HARD TO DEAL WITH.

WHO CREATED THEM...?

THEN, THE "AYAME BIRDS" KARAKU MENTIONED,

MAHOGANY AND THE REST SAID,

"IF WE RUN INTO THOSE THINGS, WE'LL DEAL WITH THEM."

SFX WHOOSH!

?!

NO—

AYAME BIRDS?!

SFX: BANG

11 OF 11

SFX SNAP

SFX WHOOSH

SFX: BANG

HOW CAN THEY BE FALLING FROM ABOVE US.

RAKAN, HIDE BEHIND ME

...AYAME?!

HUH?

!!

ARROWS!

GEE BANG! (MULTIPLE)

THOSE ARE ARROWS .

THEY AREN'T "ORDINARY" VILLAGERS ...

KURO IS SLEEPING OVER THERE.

SFX SNORE.

THIS IS BAD, THERE ARE "PEOPLE".

EH?

THEY'VE MASKED THEIR SCENT. .

!

THAT'S..

FREEZE!!

?!

LISTEN CAREFULLY.

WE HAVE YOU COMPLETELY SURROUNDED!

IF YOU DARE MOVE ONE INCH, WE WILL SHOOT!

WE
ARE THE
FRONTIER
GUARD!!

YES.

THIRTY TWO. WE REALLY ARE SURROUNDED.

ARROWS ARE HARD TO DEAL WITH.

HOW MANY PEOPLE?

KINGEN'S ...

I HEARD...

SURE ENOUGH,

THAT YOU CALL THAT MAN "CHIGUSA"?

"FRONTIER GUARD" ...?!

!

THERE IS ONLY ONE MAN IN THIS WORLD,

WHO CARRIES A "LIVING GUN" AND CALLS HIMSELF "CHIGUSA",

OH NO!

HOW COULD YOU POSSIBLY BE HERE...?!

YOU SHOULD BE THE SINNER SENTENCED TO CRUCIFIXION FOR ATTACKING THE PRINCE,

AND THAT'S "SENROH CHIGUSA"!

WHY DO YOU LOOK SO MUCH LIKE THE PRINCE?

AND WHY ARE YOU WITH SENROH?

WAS IT YOU WHO WROTE THIS LETTER?

SFX: SNAP

!

SHOULD WE ASK RAKAN TO DISPLAY HIS SANOME POWERS?

IF WE TRY TO EXPLAIN IT TO THEM CLEARLY, WILL THEY UNDER-STAND?

SFX: MUMBLING

YOU THERE, BOY, LET ME ASK YOU!

EH?!

I SEE SOME-THING OVER THERE ..

WILL THAT HAVE ANY USE?

!

A VERY AMUSING LETTER.

THIS WAS,

WHERE SHOULD I START EXPLAINING ..

YES,

IT WAS ME.

WHY ARE YOU SLANDERING KINGEN -SAMA?

SHOULD BELONG ONLY TO "KINGEN".

YOUR SANOME POWERS,

BETRAYING KINGEN-SAMA IS THE SAME AS DISOBEYING GOD!!

HUMILIATING KINGEN -SAMA IS THE SAME AS HUMILIATING US!

SO HOW COULD THEY LET THE WORLD PERISH!

THE KINGEN CLAN WAS THE FIRST TO INITIATE A CONNECTION TO GOD,

HOLD ON FOR A BIT

WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

THEY WON'T LISTEN TO US.

Delusional believers

IT LOOKS LIKE,

—...

JUST WAIT A LITTLE WHILE MORE.

MM.

CHIGUSA.

...

CLACK

HE IS A KNOWN SINNER, YET YOU'RE ALL STILL TRAVELLING WITH HIM?

...DO YOU NOT RECOGN ZE THAT NAME?

SENROH CHIGUSA!

...

...

...

SFX: SHUFFLE

AND IN THE NAME OF KINGEN—

AND ARE AS GUILTY AS SENROH WAS WHEN HE ATTACKED THE PRINCE

THEN, YOU ARE ALL ENEMIES OF KINGEN,

WE WILL DEAL WITH ALL OF YOU!

SHOOT ALL OF THEM EXCEPT THE SANOME!

SWORDS, FORWARD MARCH!

...PLEASE STAY WHERE YOU ARE!

LOOK AT THE GROUND BENEATH YOUR FEET.

?!

DON'T MOVE!!

WAA!

?!

ぎゅっ!

ぎゅっ!

END

"KINGEN'S" GUARD.

DO YOU...

WANT TO TRAMPLE THE FLOWERS TO DEATH?

...!!

AND SENROH CHIGUSA IS HERE TO PROTECT THIS SANOME PRINCE.

HE IS THE YOUNGER BROTHER OF THE PRINCE,

PLEASE LISTEN TO ME!

.....

WE WILL LOWER OUR WEPONS AS WELL!

IF YOU LOWER YOUR ARROWS,

...

NOD

...

SO IT'S LIKE THAT, HUH, OKAY.

WE'LL LOWER THEM AT THE SAME TIME.

EVERY-BODY TOGE-THER.

LET'S BOTH LOWER AT THE COUNT OF THREE.

THREE...

TWO,

YOU TWO,

ONE

!

JUST AIM AT THE MEN YOU'RE FACING RIGHT NOW!

THEY'RE HERE!!

NO, THEY DON'T INTEND TO LOWER THEIR WEAPONS AT ALL!

SFX: BANG!

Snap!

!!

WHOOSH

FIRE!

Snatch!

SFX GRAB

덜썩

EH...

?!

EH...

?!

YOU DARE ATTACK OUR PRINCE!

SFX: GRAB

DON'T MOVE, OLD MAN!

SFX: CHOMP

WHAT?!

WHERE DID THESE GUYS COME FROM...?!

WE ARE...

THE SANOME PRINCE'S GUARD!!

KAZUHI...!

EVERY-
ONE...!!

...

UGH...

SFX THUD

OH RIGHT, THEY'RE "KINGEN'S GUARD" ...?!

What should I say to him...?!

This near ↓

AH, THAT FELLOW IS OVER THERE!

Just happened to lend a helping hand.

Tap

PLEASE WALK THIS WAY.

Tap

SANOME -SAMA.

Tap

◆SILVER DIAMOND⑫／END◆

Silver Diamond

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•Battle•

SFX: FLUFF
HMM?
...
REALLY?
TOHJI'S FEATHER BRUSH IS SO FLUFFY,
IT HAS A THERAPEUTIC EFFECT.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
yup, it's so fluffy.
CHIGUSA, WHY DON'T YOU TRY IT AND SEE?
SURE.
RUBBING SOMEONE'S HAIR IS HEALING?

TOUCH TOHJI'S HAIR, TOHJI'S!
NO, DON'T TOUCH MINE!
THAT'S FAR ENOUGH, FREEZE. WRONG PERSON,
SFX: THWACK
SFX: SLOWLY
THEN...

• Constantly a Battlefield •

SFX: FLUFF

Hot

HMM, INDEED.

Puff

Puff

Aah, This feels better.

THAT DAMN NARU-SHIGE...

Watching without the fire burn helping.

CHIGUSA, YOU'VE DONE ENOUGH TOUCHING NOW, RIGHT?

ISN'T IT SO FLUFFY?

The spark that flew over → from the flames.

I like the smoothness of his long hair ♥

IT FEELS EVEN MORE COMFORTABLE TO TOUCH.

NARU-SHIGE'S HAIR IS LONG AND SILKY.

Oh, oh, let me tell you guys~

THIS GUY IS ONLY NOT STUPID IN SITUATIONS LIKE THIS...!!

URGH,

This feels good.

PLEASE TOUCH!

THANKS.

SFX: FLEES

• End of the War •

HMM?

WHAT'S THE MATTER?

...

CHUCKLE.

The two on the other side of Kuro.

IF THE SITUATION BECOMES WRONG, WE'LL STEP IN TO STOP HIM.

CHIGUSA, DO YOU LIKE TEASING THE PEOPLE YOU CARE ABOUT?

HUH?

We can't ever let our guard down!

Sigh~hhh

THOSE TWO ARE CHATTING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT AGAIN.

HUH?

AH, NOTHING, I WAS JUST THINKING OF SOMETHING FUNNY.

WHAT WAS IT?

I JUST FEEL THAT YOU ACTUALLY LIKE TOHJI AND NARUSHIGE A LOT.

CHIGUSA.

MHM...

WELL, I HOPE SO...

RAKAN,

LOOKS LIKE,

I DON'T HAVE TO STOP HIM TODAY.

What are they saying...

YES!

Unsheathes

AH, THAT'S NOT OKAY, WE NEED TO GO STOP HIM!

OFTEN THINK OF TEASING YOU TOO.

I ALSO...

JUST GO TO SLEEP ALREADY!

I'D ACTUALLY RATHER YOU DO THAT.

Moreover, depending on what you say, I might also get very childishly angry

IF YOU'RE NOT AFRAID OF BEING HARSHLY SCOLDED BY ME, I DON'T MIND...

◆EXTRA—END OF THE WAR / END◆